

**Nicococo!!**



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DURARARA!! NICONICO SPECIAL EDITION PART 1: NICOCOCO!!

This is a twisted story.  
A story about twisted comments.

“We’re going to make a video!”

“We’re aiming for #1 in the daily rankings!” Yumasaki Walker and Karisawa Erika abruptly proclaimed, as they held a video camera and a laptop in their hands.

For these two, such speech and actions probably weren’t too unusual but——

“.....Eh?”

Celty Sturluson, who had just returned home and had no idea what was going on, stood in front of Walker and Erika and her head tilted in confusion.

To be more accurate, what she tilted was not, in fact, her head, but the helmet resting on top of her body.

Because, for her——

Nothing exists above her neck.

♂ ♀

Celty Sturluson is not human.

Commonly called a “Dullahan”, she’s a type of faerie from Scotland and Ireland——it is said that if their existence revolves around stopping near the houses of mortals, and warning them of their impending death.

They hold their own head under their arm, and are commonly seen riding a two-wheeled wagon drawn by a headless horse called a cóiste-bodhar, visiting the houses of those who are soon to die. If someone is foolish enough to open their door, they’ll get a bucket full of blood tossed in their face——as a messenger of ill-omens, their stories have been handed down in tradition in Europe, just like that of the banshee.

But that is an old story.

Now, she is living an ordinary life, loving a man named Kishitani Shinra, both as a living urban legend and as a woman.

♂ ♀

It was on this peaceful day that these two suddenly barged in.

“A video...of what?”

“Nooo~ Nowadays, if you’re talking about videos it’s for Niconico, a nico-video!” As if to match Erika’s words, Walker gave a huge smile as she talked.\*

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\* Niconico literally means “smile”

“That’s right! Karisawa-san has been a regular on the site ever since it first went live!”

“Ah, no. . . I know what Niconico is but. . . wait, what? Since the original version? But then, Karisawa how old are you. . .”

“OK, OK! Let’s save that annoying topic for some time in the future!” Clapping her hands together forcibly, Erika quickly changed the subject.

“So, Cel-chan, what kind of video do you want to make? Do you want to make some sort of live reaction Let’s Play of a free game?”

“No, uh, live reaction. . . There’s no way I could do that.”

“If we use one of those fancy text-to-speech software it should be fine. If it comes down to it, I can also make a really nice silent video too. Just as long as the contents are interesting.”

“Wait, wait, first of all, why do you suddenly want to make a video? And why doesn’t it have to involve me?” At Celty’s rather sensible questions, Erika shook her head sadly.

“Ah crap, you noticed. . . as I should have expected of Celcchi.”

“I didn’t really notice anything. . .”

“No it’s just. . . y’know? Honestly I was just being selfish, I’m sorry, I just thought. . . . .” At Erika’s hesitation, Walker turned to explain to Celty.

“What she means to say is, Karisawa-san has a Niconico rival.”

“Rival?”

“First of all, take a look at this video.”

“Wait, stop that Yamacchi! It’s too embarrassing for me to watch!”

Deaf to Erika’s pleas, Walker opened up his laptop and connected to the wireless router, before opening up the Niconico homepage. There, in a video titled “Singing Opera while Cosplaying@Eternal de Charmant,” Erika, with the top half of her face hidden by a mask and in some sort of anime character cosplay, began to sing opera.

“No, stop it–! I don’t want to hear it~!” Before Erika locked Walker in a full nelson hold in an effort to make him stop, Celty could hear Erika’s singing voice echoing out of the computer speakers.

Although she does not have ears, Celty is clad in a ‘shadow,’ more sensitive than human ears, which allowed her to feel the music. Shaking with deep emotion, she swung her smartphone screen around to face Erika.

“Karisawa. . . you. . . you’re that good at singing!?”

“Right~ Isn’t it amazing~. Among our fellow anime friends, Karisawa-san is a legend y’know?”

“Aaaaagh no, it’s not like that. Ah I’m so embarrassed. . .” Erika’s face was bright red as she shyly glanced away. It was definitely unusual behavior for her.

“Nevertheless. . . This ‘Eternal de Charmant’, is that your stage name. . . ?”

“Yup, yup! That’s right! It’s so cool isn’t it!” Seeing Erika’s suddenly brightened face struck a chord of fear into Celty’s heart as she typed out her response.

“Well. . . It’s nothing to be embarrassed about. . .” While Celty was lost in her thoughts about Erika, Walker decided to continue his story from before.

“So there’s this rival of Charmant-san called Blizzard la Blizzadia. Of course, she’s also very good at singing, and she cosplays too, so one way or another they’re going to end up being compared...”

“So?”

“Well, one day they got into a nasty tit-for-tat on a Skype chat, and she said “Well I’m really good friends with the famous Let’s Play gamer ●●-san. You don’t have any important friends though do you.” So of course Karisawa-san replied with “I have a lot of super amazing friends!” and then...”

“...And then?” Celty couldn’t quite tie the two things together, so she prompted him to continue.

“Well, after their nasty tit-for-tat, the two of them decided to get their friends to submit movie to Niconico, and have a contest to see which one gets the most mylist bookmarks and likes on their video!”

“I see. Well. That was an extremely stupid story compared to the earlier one about Karisawa’s opera singing.”

Then, a second later, Celty furiously punched something into her smartphone in large, capital letters.

**“ARE YOU AN IDIOT!”**

Then she quickly typed out another message, before shoving it in Erika and Walker’s faces.

“How on earth did the conversation become a video competition!? Are you some sort of mah-jongg video game NPC? Isn’t that the equivalent of “Oh if that’s the case let’s settle this with a game of mah-jongg”? Do today’s youth go rampaging around so recklessly!? Are you going to become one of those people who illegally uploads DVD bonus footage and the like and then says “Oh well we were just giving it publicity so we’re innocent” or something like that!?” Her shoulders shaking with anger, she furiously typed out another message.

“Anyway, you’ve already decided that your followers will pose as her followers and spread hate, and when their sockpuppet comments are exposed there will be a firestorm of comments on your video, which it will unfairly drive up the number and people will be arguing over the chat or via Niconama and then people who see this will upload their own videos and it will start all over again! Isn’t that what you’re planning! Niconico is a site that’s meant to make people smile!”

“Not at all—, we’re all proper adults, we wouldn’t do that sort of thing.”

“If you were proper adults you wouldn’t torture people in the back of your friend’s van!”

“Now, now, let’s put that aside for a moment...I just thought I could make a cool video if I could videotape Celcchi doing something and came to talk to you about it. I don’t want to cause any trouble.” Karisawa easily dismissed the troubling points Celty made, but rather than going on, Celty just typed out a new message as she regained her composure.

"I didn't want to say it but, the motorcycle police are still hunting me. . .In the worst case, they'll be able to identify where I live by the background or something from the video and I'll get arrested, and then the headlines all over the social networks would be 【Headless Rider Uploads Her Own Video and Gets Arrested!】 . I'd be a laughingstock."

"Well the motorcycle police looking for you is just a case of you reaping what you sow, so it should be fine right."

"That's right. You *have* done some illegal things, Celcchi—"

"I, I hate hearing that from you but I can't say anything against it. . ." Knowing they found her weakness, Celty wondered nervously what she should do but then——

"I heard the whole thing."

The door opened wide, and there stood the owner of the apartment, a back alley doctor named Kishitani Shinra.

"Guess there's no choice. In order to prove that Celty is a great friend of Karisawa-kun, I guess I'll have to help."

"Shinra. Can you even make a movie?"

—Surely he's not planning on making a movie like “ 【Surgical Scene】 Inside a Back Alley Doctor's Medical Treatment”.

As if sensing Celty's uneasiness, Shinra gave a broad grin as he spoke.

"I'll just release a small part of the videos I've sneakily taken and saved of Celty over the course of ten years! Of course, I naturally have the desire to keep it to myself, but I can't keep them all. . .And with Celty's charm, you'll easily be able to break one million plays!"

*Several minutes later—*

After throwing Shinra down and tying him up with her own 'shadows,' Celty tiredly wrote another message out for Erika and Walker.

"I got it. . .I'll cooperate to the best of my abilities, on the condition you forget everything Shinra just said."

♂ ♀

*Several hours later*

——Or something like that.

After Erika and Walker had gone home, Celty booted up her own laptop.

——I wonder if I was really able to help out with the making of that movie.

She opened up the Niconico homepage and signed in under the username "Setton."  
After all, at one time in the past she had taken her own video and uploaded it. The video was called “ 【This is pretty】 12 Selections of Great Scenery from a Rooftop! 【Rooftop Movie】 ”

She had shot a video of the scenery from her favorite rooftop and edited it.

——It's been several years since I looked at this...I can't even laugh at Karisawa's username since I used at title like that.

——I wonder if there are any flames like "What a boring movie!" on it now.

Filled with anxiety, she carefully opened up the video page and——

『Views: 12   Comments: 0   Mylist: 2』

——Oh...Ooooooooooh...

"What are you looking at, Celty?" A voice came from behind her and made her jump in shock. Looking over her shoulder, Shinra peered at the video screen.

"Eeeh, Celty, did you post that video! If you had told me I would have paid 50,000yen to promote it on Nico Nico."\* Shinra's eyes shone as he looked at the screen.

"Wow! Look at all the comments!" Shinra stared at the large number of comments scrolling from right to left across the screen, saying things like "Extremely pretty" "What a divine view" and "Rooftops are the best, aren't they." Shinra smiled and laughed as he spoke, while Celty trembled slightly.

"I guess so, well, it's really not a big deal."

"But hey, Celty. All these people who commented, why are they all in black letters?"

"I...I wonder."

"Also, these black lettered comments, they seem a little different from the ones I'm familiar with."

"I think it's just your imagination." If she were human, Celty would have been covered in a cold sweat by now. Seeing straight through her, Shinra nodded his smiling face slowly.

"You know, Celty, even if you did use your 'shadows' to make text run across the screen and make me think you had a lot of comments, I'd still love your video anyway." Shinra comforted her, as Celty took a solid form again.

"Because I think that strangely timid part of you is actually very cute."

The black letters on the screen crumpled and warped, as Celty thrust her smartphone out to Shinra.

"On the contrary, you're actually making me sad so stop saying stuff like that-!"

And thus, Celty got caught up in Erika's video rivalry. The Dollars have vanished, and now, the curtain quietly rises on the story of an Ikebukuro that's been repainted a new color. This is the ordinary story of the Headless Rider leaving her mark on the world while existing as an urban legend.

To be continued in Nicococo!!x2

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\* On Nico Nico, you can pay to support/promote your favorite video

# Nicococo!!x2



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DURARARA!! NICONICO SPECIAL EDITION PART 2: NICOCOCO!!x2

## Kawagoe-kaido Road - A Certain Apartment

Ikebukuro's Headless Rider, Celty Sturluson, was irritated.

*"We're making a video, and we're aiming for the daily rankings!"*

Due to such absurd behaviour by her friends Karisawa Erika and Yamasaki Walker, she was being forced to undertake the task of making a video. Celty still had some time before the deadline, and considering the only video she made in the past was a colossal failure with only 12 views and 0 comments, she was currently trying to figure out how to make a really good video.

—Hmm...I guess I should look at the ones that are popular.

Having decided to look at other people's popular videos to get some ideas, Celty opened up her laptop and started to check those that were in Niconico's ranking lists.

—Let's see, the top spot is...a Let's Play gaming video...

—Actually, those two mentioned doing a Let's Play video too...but there's no way I could do live reactions.

—In the first place, there's the problem with copyright restrictions...I also don't know what would be a good game to make a video of would be.

—Also, recently, game makers have started adding conditions to their games about uploading videos...

—Aaah just thinking about this is annoying.

Looking at all the popular videos made her even more aware of all her previous failings, and Celty again realized how rash she had been to agree to this.

—Well, for now, why don't I try out a free game.

—This one is popular in the horror genre... "Blue Kappa." OK, I'll try this one.

She had seen horror game titles occasionally in the rankings over the years, so Celty downloaded the trial version.

—It seems really scary, but if it's just ghosts and monsters I'll be fine.

—Hahaha, the kappa's really cute.

Even though there seemed to be some really scary scenes, Celty figured she could pick it up quickly and not be too frightened, so she started the game with a little bit of excitement.

♂ ♀

*One hour later*

"Celty, Celty~~. Your favorite television program is starting~?" Kishitani Shinra, who lives with the Headless Rider, called out as he poked his head in.

However, the one he was looking for was nowhere to be found.

"Oh~? That's weird. I wonder where Celty is." Shinra tilted his head and surveyed the room—Then rushed over to the closet and flung open the door.



“Celty, are you...oh here you are~!” Immediately, from inside the open door, a huge first approximately 1 meter in diameter made of black shadow flew out and swatted Shinra across the room.

“Aaauuugh!”

After being sent tumbling across room, he slowly turned his attention back to the closet, where inside, Celty was crouched down shaking violently, like a phone on vibrate.

“...Celty?” Shinra called out from where he had landed, and Celty finally turned to look at him. She timidly emerged from the closet, checking to make sure there were no suspicious shadows, before rushing up to Shinra and thrusting her smartphone at him.

“I, I’m sorry Shinra! Are you ok!?”

“Of course I’m fine!” In a flash, Shinra was on his feet giving her a thumbs up.

“I’m used to living with Celty so no matter what unreasonable force you use on me, I’ll be fine! Even if all the people in the world called you a violent heroine and detested you, I would still support you! I wouldn’t hand you over to anyone, I’d even become a masochist! Here, I’ll even do a hindu squat so you can step on me to your heart’s content!”

“I got it already, I really am sorry so please calm down.” Pacified, Shinra threw himself down on the floor again with his cheeks flushed, while Celty looked around restlessly.

“Really, what’s wrong Celty? Why were you hiding in the closet?”

“I-it’s because of that game.”

“Game?” Shinra shifted his attention to the desk, where apparently a game was frozen in the middle of play on the PC screen.

“What is that?”

“A-ah. It’s a game called Blue Kappa. I thought it obviously was a game where you run around trying to get away from a kappa like in monster games but...”  
Cowering behind Shinra, Celty continued her explanation.

“The Blue Kappa, which I thought was a monster, is actually an alien, and one day, the people of the town one by one, little by little, are turned into aliens...! And in the end, it’s not just the humans, but the town itself becomes an alien...the walls, the floors, everything one by one ends up with the face of a Blue Kappa type alien...!! Hyaaaaa!!”

“...Is it an adventure game? Or a sound novel\*?”

“No, it’s a farm management simulator.”

“Why is that scary. What was going on in the producer’s head?” Not finding any of it really scary, Shinra still shut down the game Celty had become so frightened by.

“Look, see, it’s okay now. There are no aliens here.”

“R-really?”

“Really. They’re not here. No aliens here. None at a..ack—!” Shinra had stealthily attempted to embrace Celty but——Celty saw what he was going to do and easily dodged, resulting in him falling into the still open closet with a shout.

“Ah ow ow ow...ah well, I guess you really hate aliens, huh, Celty.”

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\* Similar to visual novels, sound novels focus more on sounds rather than visual effects. Also called audio games.

"Well it is space right? In the grand cosmos, if all the planets in the solar system line up, it will cause a black hole and everything will break up into a photon belt right!?"

"Calm down, Celty. Even if all the planets in the cosmos line up, nothing is going to happen."

"O-oh. . ." After finally calming down, Celty stopped trembling and put an arm around Shinra's shoulder.

"Thank you, Shinra. I'm really can't do a Let's Play of horror games after all I guess."

"Ah, so this has to do with that video project huh." The instant he realized it was all about the Niconico video, he broke out in a new smile as he spoke to Celty.

"Hmm. Ok then, since you like games, rather than a horror game, why don't we try a really difficult game? How does that sound?"

"Difficult game. . .do you mean like a game where you die a bunch of times, or have traps as soon as you start the stage, or with a lot of Kaizo's Traps\*?"

"Yup, that kind of thing. Although, now, really famous games don't have a lot of impact. Do you want to try playing a super hard game no one knows about?"

"No one knows about it. . .is there such a game?" As Celty tilted her helmet in confusion, Shinra lightly brought up the name of an acquaintance of theirs.

"There is. And it was made by Orihara-kun. I guarantee it's really hard."

♂ ♀

### *Raira Era*

"What are you doing?" Shinra cheerfully asked his classmate, an acquaintance named Orihara Izaya, who had a laptop open in front of him.

"Oh, just killing time. I'm making a small game."

"Game?" Donning on a smile that was blacker than the black gakuran he was wearing, Izaya held out a CD to Shinra.

"Here, I'll give you a copy."

"Are you sure? But, what kind of game is it?"

"A game to test the patience of humans. Well, it's not very good so I don't plan on releasing it online or anything."

♂ ♀

### *Present Time – Shinra's Apartment*

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\* Known as Koumei Traps in Japan – where you die while celebrating a victory cutscene and have to do it all again.

“Oooh, it’s working even on the newest OS.” Compared to Shinra’s cheerful words, Celty was a little more apprehensive.

“Are you sure it’s OK? I mean, a game made by that guy is. . .”

“It’s fine, it’s fine. When he made it, he didn’t yet know how to make viruses and stuff.”

“Are you sure? Have you played it before?” At Celty’s question, Shinra flashed a bright grin and nodded in assent.

“Yup. But I stopped about 10 seconds after starting.”

“What on earth. I don’t know what kind of awful game this is, but I’m sure I’ll last more than 10 seconds.” As she said that, Celty turned her attention to the start screen.

### 【Super Hard! Izaya Castle! AKA Izaya’s Challenge!】

“Sorry, Shinra. I’m already extremely irritated.” After looking at the title screen, Celty responded to Shinra by pulling up a text file and punching in those words.

“Yeah. If you know Orihara-kun, this is a way to test how well you know him by how angry it makes you. And he can make sure no one but people who know him get these.”

“What a terrible person.”

“It’s a small mercy that Shizuo-kun doesn’t own a computer. He’d probably destroy every computer within a 5 kilometer radius if he ever played this game.”

Recalling her violent, bartender-outfit-wearing friend, Celty felt a shudder go down her spine, and instead chose to start the game.

After clicking the start button, a male character, apparently the protagonist, appeared in the middle of the screen. It seemed the arrow keys could move right and left, and the space bar made the character jump.

——Huh. It’s just like an orthodox action game.

“You would think so, right?”

“I’ve got a bad feeling about this since it’s meant to read the hearts of normal people.”

——Ah whatever. It’s a game made by Izaya, I should be able to understand most of it.

——Anyhow, it doesn’t matter if turns into a difficult quiz game or a racing game or a mah-jongg game, or an RPG, or a mystery adventure game, or even an action game. In the end it’s all just a roundabout way of pissing people off right?

——If I know that from the beginning, then there’s really nothing to be afraid of.

Thinking nothing of it, Celty began to move the character but—

——Oh, an unexpected trap?

On screen, a hole opened up on the bottom and the character fell through. However, there was no Game Over screen, it just turned completely black and the afterimage of the character continued falling in the middle of the screen forever.

——Huh. Is it going to change to another screen? Is this another route to the depths of the earth?

——.....

——.....

——.....How long is he going to keep falling!?

After 30 seconds had passed, the screen finally changed. Next to the falling character, words slowly rose up from the bottom.

【The character you controlled continues to fall into the darkness. He will continue to fall without end due to impact or pain, but this means he will taste the fear of endlessly falling into the dark. That fear changes to uneasiness before long. Will it ever end? If there is no end, and he cannot die, does this mean he's stuck falling forever? Then, uneasiness changes to loss. Both fear and uneasiness fade away, and he is seized with the sense that his own past and feelings are lost. No, perhaps he was already thinking this? From the time he first fell in the hole, his life was over. Above the hole, in the bright aboveground, didn't his feelings and memories give him a reason for being? If that's so, then what kind of person is he. But as he continues to fall, he tries to think about the meaning of his life and his spirit fails; still, still, falling, wondering if this was all he was born to do——. As he continues to think about those things, he becomes a pathetic character whose identity is fused with the fall itself. If he only has one emotion left, it would be hatred for you, the player. Why did you advance so carelessly? Knowing that this was a game made by Orihara Izaya, why were you under the illusion that the floor you stepped onto would be a normal floor? It's your fault. It is all your fault that he has lost himself and has been condemned to be a program that simply falls for all eternity. I'll never forgive you, I'll never forgive you, I'll never forgive you , I'll never forgive you , I'll never forgive you , I'll never forgive you , I'll never forgive you , I'll never forgive you .....surely that is what he is thinking. Ah, but it is not necessary to start feeling guilty. Because you are the same way, aren't you. Yes, by just a mere afterimage effect continuing to do nothing but fall, this character surely becomes an expression of the player's own life, your own life. How much time have you wasted on this game already? On this game with no meaning, have you found some sort of meaning for your life? Or is it just a waste of time? Then, are you simply wasting your spare time? After all, if only penance piles up in your spare time, in the end, life becomes far too burdensome doesn't it? If in the

first place, this cannot relieve the agony of boredom, then in that case, the character which continues to fall without change——】

The sentences were endless, truly endless, and each line took about 5 seconds to progress, so they slowly, slowly rose from the bottom of the screen. Celty had patiently read each sentence at the beginning, but finally fed up with it, she asked Shinra a question.

“.....Hey, does this mean there's nothing else to do anymore?”

“I think so. I gave up playing after falling for 10 seconds.”

“Just how long are these artificial, teasing, and juvenile like sentences going to go on?”

“When I played it, I left for an hour and came back and it was still going. I really have to take my hat off to Izaya's determination.” Upon hearing those words, Celty moved her mouse to the top right of the screen and clicked the X button. And then—

【Oh my, are you giving up already? Escape doesn't really solve anything though, right? But by all means, if you want to avert your eyes from reality, its fine if you start the task manager and force close the program. But, you realize that if you do that, you'll accepted being defeated by me.】

After reading the pop-up that appeared when the program didn't close, Celty desperately fought the urge to smash the screen.

“Uwaah!! What the hell is that!”

“Right? It's hard isn't it? If you want to finish it you have to have a strong spirit.”

“I didn't want something difficult like this!”

“Well, well, you could have expected it would turn out like this.” In an attempt to calm Celty, who was quickly growing violent, Shinra mused on his memories.

“Which reminds me, only a guy named Tsukumoya was able to finish the game, and I think he sent Izaya his thoughts on it...Izaya also thought it was weird. He didn't know that person, so I don't know how he got a hold of the game.”

“What on earth. How scary. . .don't tell me he was an alien. . .” A chill went down her spine, and Celty quickly changed the subject in an effort to shake off the feeling.

“In the first place, how am I supposed to make a good Let's Play off of this?”

“It's OK! Your anguish and the way you tried to hold on to your anger and not explode while watching the screen, I got it all on video tape!” Shinra gave an ecstatic smile and a thumbs up. Grasped in his other hand was an HD video camera.

“If we upload this to Niconico, Celty's charm will make everyone smile!”

“.....”

A few minutes later, after leaving Shinra tied up in the corner of the room, Celty again reconsidered her options for a Niconico video submission.

——Hmmm. As I thought, I really can't do any live reaction Let's Play videos...

——I wonder if there's some sort of video I could use as reference...

As Celty stared at her computer screen, she suddenly thought of something.

——Oh, shit. My Niconico point expiration date is coming up soon.

——I still have 2800 points left, so there's no way I can use them up in time...

Celty thought this was a good opportunity and she needed a change of pace anyway, so she decided to use her Niconico points to watch a movie.

——Uuum...let's look at something with ghosts.

——Ooh, the movie Dark Skies has its own Niconico channel now.

——I saw a poster for it on Sunshine 60 Dori before and wanted to see it.

——It seems like it's made by the same people who made Paranormal Activity...

——Well I'm fine with ghosts and stuff. Looks fun.

——I can't discount Dreamcatcher either. It looks like a horror film too.

——The Fourth Kind also looks interesting.

——OK then, which one should I watch...

*Then, two hours later——*

After finishing the movie, Celty was once again cowering in the closet shaking like a leaf.

What on earth did she watch in the movie?

All the answers are on—NicoNico Douga.

“...Celty. Hey, can you untie me from your shadows soon? Celty? Ceeelty?”

To be continued in Nicococo!!x3

# Nicococo!!x3



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DURARARA!! NICONICO SPECIAL EDITION PART 3: NICOCOCO!!x3

*Ikebukuro - Business District*

It was the same business as usual today for the town of Ikebukuro.

It was just passed 7:00 p.m. Whether it was salarymen returning from work, or students having fun long after school, or maybe those people wearing those strange clothes and you're really not sure what they're up to, various kinds of people were bustling around, each going about their own Ikebukuro life.

Everyone on the streets all had their own individual emotions written across their faces, from the cheerful laugh to the tired sigh of the worker, it all came together to make up the usual atmosphere of the town.

All except for one.

That exception was straddling a black bike with no headlights or license plate was a suspicious looking shadow——That is, the “Headless Rider,” who was hanging around with a handy cam gripped in her hand.

“Oh, if it isn't Celty. What are you doing?” From out of the darkness, a voice called the wandering Headless Rider, Celty Sturluson, to a stop. The voice belonged to a longtime friend of hers, Heiwajima Shizuo.

He was certainly a conspicuous figure, walking around in his bartender outfit, but he was nothing compared to Celty. Shizuo had just finished work and was on his way home when he happened to spy her sneaking around behind a telephone pole and called out to her.

“A-ah. . .S-Shizuo. It's been a while.”

“Yo. What's that, you're holding a video camera. Doing work?”

“No. . . . it's like, a hobby or something. . . Just, thought I'd look for something amusing or strange to shoot. . .”

“Something strange?” Hearing such words from Celty, who was a strange phenomenon in and of herself, Shizuo looked puzzled.

“Uuum, I need to make a video to post on Niconico Douga, but I haven't really had any good chances.”

“What? What the hell is a Niconico Douga?”

“...Uh, well, it's an online site where you post videos, and people comment on it and share it and stuff. . .” Shizuo wasn't really interested with anything to do with the internet, so Celty tried to keep her explanation to the basics. She thought it would be useless to try and explain in depth, but this explanation seemed to work.

“Aaah...so it's an online thing.” Shizuo let out a sigh and pulled a face as he continued.

“I'm not really suited for online stuff. There's no one in front of me I can get mad at and beat up, so I ended up destroying everything around me instead.”

“...I see. Then, yeah, it's better if you don't use it.”

——He really does have no patience or ability to ignore things does he.

Although she thought it, Celty would never say that out loud, so she turned the conversation back to her original purpose.



"Well, at any rate, I guess I won't be able to make an interesting movie that attracts everyone's interest after all. Sometimes I see street performers or some people acting strangely, but it's creepy if I take a video without permission. . . I think it'll only be possible if some pink elephants and white crocodiles come dancing down the street after escaping from a circus. Hahahahahahahah."

"You're, in an unusually bad mood."

"I, I guess."

"In the first place, those kind of strange events don't simply show up that often." Shizuo said in disgust, as he took a swig of the canned juice in his hand.

"Well, that's true but still. . ." From behind Celty, who was still watching the events of the town while holding her video camera, Shizuo began to crush the can he had finished drinking with his finger.

"I think it's better when nothing's happening. Taking a video of a peaceful town and then getting that feeling of calm that comes from watching it is the best, isn't it." As he spoke, he carefully smoothed out the steel can with only the power of his finger.

"Well. . . I agree it would be best if I could upload something like that to Nico Nico but. . . Peaceful things really are great. But people really want to see videos of others showing off their c that not everybody has. . ."

"Special skills, huh." As the conversation went on, Shizuo continued to manipulate the steel can in his hands. He easily crushed the hard bottom as though it was clay, and, fed up with it, folded it all up.

"If that's the case, then just walking around won't really work, yeah? I mean, I'm just saying, don't you think you should turn your camera to a more clear and concrete purpose?"

Finally, due to Shizuo's super human strength, the steel can was compressed into a tiny, dice like cube. The dense level of compression exceeded that of a vice, and was enough to make someone think that the metal sides had actually been soldered together.

"That's a good idea. . . Especially since people with amazing, special skills don't show up very often."

"Yeah, that's true. Well, I don't know why you're making that movie, but good luck." As he said that, Shizuo tossed the little cube into a nearby metal recycling bin. Listening to the sound it made hitting the sides of the bin, Shizuo turned back onto his road home.

——It's just as Shizuo says.

——After all, if it was easy to make a movie, people wouldn't work so hard at it.

Letting out a deep sigh in her mind, Celty put her camera away and returned to her motorcycle she had stopped nearby.

She paid no attention to the result of that man's superhuman strength that was rolling around in the nearby recycling bin.

♂ ♀

"Ah! It's Headless Rider-san! Yahoo~!"

"....."

Several minutes later, as Celty had driven slowly through the town, she spotted a pair of twin girls she recognized, and the one with glasses had flagged her down.

"Uum. . .you're Izaya's sisters, right..."

"I'm Mairu! This is Kuru-nee!"

"....."

There was the lively sister, Orihara Mairu, and her opposite, who just silently did a quick bow of her head, Orihara Kururi.

"Whaat~? What are you doing~? Work?"

"No, nothing like that. . .ah, that's right, this is good timing." Although she had only been peripherally connected to these two by fate before, Celty was desperate and decided to try and consult them.

"I think this is a bit sudden to ask. . .but do you know Niconico Douga?"

"Yup, we do!"

"Can you tell me what kind of videos you like?" After all, these two were high school girls. While she didn't know what ratio of Niconico users were high school girls, she thought it might be useful to hear the preferences of a young person, and she could listen without taking it too seriously.

"Porn!"

"...Eh?"

"And videos of girls dancing around half-naked going 'nukyaa nukyaa~'!"

"This is the first time I've ever heard of someone saying 'nukyaa nukyaa~'..." Celty was clearly flustered, not knowing if this was a good answer or not, but Mairu continued to talk.

"I've made one before too, with Kuru-nee, y'know? The two of us dancing."

"I see."

It's true that the two were pretty, and combined with the novelty of twins, the video would surely be popular if they danced well. Thinking that, Celty decided to try and ask how many views it got. But Mairu finished her story before she could.

"But you know, it got deleted."

"Eh?"

"Apparently it was in violation of the Terms of Service, something about **【Sexual, obscene, and violent acts, or acts that cause extreme discomfort to others.】**"

"High school girls shouldn't be making videos that violate the kind of rule! No, no matter what age you are you shouldn't do that!" Seeing Celty so extremely flustered, Mairu gave a loud laugh as she spoke.

"It's fine, it's fine! It wasn't like it was a matter for the police or anything...just barely."

"That's not a good thing!"

"It's really fine though. It's not like we were stark naked~. What got us was that Kuru-nee's dance was just too erotic. Even I started to drool at the passion Kuru-nee put into her dance."

"Enough already. I'm sorry. I don't want to hear any more dreadful things."

—Geez, they really are Izaya's sisters aren't they...  
After parting from the twins, Celty once again began to aimlessly wander the town.  
—But, maybe that's how all the kids feel these days?  
—I don't really have any acquaintances among young people recently.  
—Well, I want to capture the hearts of ordinary people too, not just young people.  
—I'm going to have to try to ask more people for their opinions.

♂ ♀

### *Russia Sushi*

"Movie? Good timing, you should make a propaganda movie for our store." Hearing what Dennis, the owner of Russia Sushi, had to say, Celty broke out in a cold sweat and was lost for words.

As though he heard what had been said, Simon suddenly appeared, holding a plate of sushi and dancing in front of Celty's camera.

"He~y! Russia Sushi good! Fill up all your dreams! Eel, toro, crab, sea urchin, salmon roe, kohada, sea bass, salmon, we have all! Eating sushi good, yes? Get thin by eating only sushi. Sushi diet! Eating sushi very popular, yes? When you win lottery or find employment, this is the happiest paradise to come to. Russia Sushi is the best sushi, number one coast-to-coast with super epic sushi!"

As Simon continued to give his nonsensical sales speech while dancing in front of the camera, Celty gave a deep sigh and turned her smart phone screen to the shop owner.

"No. . .it's forbidden to post goods and services advertisements on Niconico without permission from the managing company." At those words, Dennis glanced at Celty while sharpening his knife and said,

"I see...then I'll leave it to you to get permission."

"Stop talking nonsense!"

♂ ♀

### *Russia Sushi - Back Entrance*

Celty had just bid good-bye to Dennis and Simon when she unexpectedly ran into an acquaintance in the back Russia Sushi who had come to get an order of crab and decided to ask him for his opinion.

"Um, Niconico Douga, well, do you know anything about it?"

His name was Akabayashi. He was a high ranking member of the Awakusu-Kai, the group that claimed Ikebukuro as their turf, and a man who worked in the city's underworld.

"Due to certain circumstances, I have to make a video that will get a lot of views. . .but I don't really know what kind of video to make. . ."

“I see. Well, if you’re fine with an old man’s opinion, I may have something that will get a lot of views.”

“!! Really!?” Celty jumped on Akabayashi’s unexpected response.

“Yeah, it’s a secret video, one that has not been shown to the general public. The only copy is on my phone.”

“That’s, what on earth. . .”

“...If I tell you, there’s no going back, got it?”

“Eh!”

Akabayashi continued to speak in undertones to a perplexed Celty.

“At any rate, it’s a video that deals with the management of my organization. So you must be prepared for it to come to mortal combat if you release it to the public.”

“That’s a little. . .”

“There are many different kinds of videos in this world. There are even weirdos who want to see snuff videos, and are willing to pay money for it, so I have colleagues who are making those kinds of films. Of course it’s not faked, and it actually is 120 minutes of uncut snuff film.” Ignoring the suddenly frozen Celty, Akabayashi continued on.

“So when people ask me, ‘Do you have any interesting videos’ and such...of course, they are people who want to see a video that’s different from the mask the world puts on...But if you upload it to Niconico, you’ll get to see an interesting mix of the public world and the underworld...It’s a bit risky but... Well, what do you think of that?”

“S-sorry, I just remembered something I have to do!”

“I wonder if I was a bit too threatening.” After bidding goodbye to Celty, who fled to escape, Akabayashi replayed the video on his cellphone.

“Well, it’s just a video of a guy who tried to rough up one of the shop girls in our territory getting beaten up and then prostrating himself naked on the ground.”



### *A Certain Place in Ikebukuro*

“A...video?” While fleeing home in a panic, Celty unexpectedly encountered Sonohara Anri, who was on her way home from school and called out to Celty.

“I’ve never made one before...ah, but I did receive one once.”

“Really?”

“Yes, a really cute cat video...Mika-chan, who you once took care of at your apartment, took a video of a cat and sent it to me.” Taking out her cellphone, Anri naturally opened up the video and showed Celty. It was only a flip phone so the size wasn’t good, but you could still see the cute little kitten with its folded ears.

“Ooh, this, I want to make a video like this!”

*If it comes down to it, perhaps I should borrow this video and upload it instead?*

Celty was slowly being driven up the wall, and had reached the conclusion she should leave it to someone else but—

——.....  
As the video played, Celty erased that strategy from her head. Because as the camera zoomed out, the place where the kitten was playing also became clear. The round swelling Celty had thought was part of a cushion was actually the top of Anri's body. Celty knew Anri was well-endowed, but it was amazing that the kitten could play on top of her breasts and not fall down, even with them shaking.

"Ah, yeah. . . thanks. I'll use it as a reference." Celty thanked her as she returned the video, before going on her way.

♂ ♀

As Celty rode her bike, she thought about her options.

——So Izaya's sisters have that kind of side to them too.

——And I really can't expose Anri-chan to such public humiliation

After thinking about that, she looked back on her day today.

——...In the end, I feel like I haven't gotten any good consults outside of Shizuo's encouragement...

——Yeah, definitely only that.

——I'm going to make a video only I can make!

As Celty decided that, she pulled her bike over on the shoulder. Pulling out the handy cam, she pressed the record button and fixed it in front of the bike, by all rights where the headlight should have been, with her 'shadow'.

Revving the engine with the sound like a horse whinnying, Celty stroked the seat lovingly.

——Hang in there Shooter. It's only for a few moments.

——Still, it's a good idea if I do say so myself.

——I should have done an on-board bike camera recording from the beginning...

——About halfway, I'll use my 'shadows' to make a road and take flight

By making a road out of her own shadows, she could drive off the ground in the sky. It sounded like an unimaginable thing to do, but Celty had done it and flown in the sky many times in the past.

——It will be a very mysterious video.

——Afterwards, so that I don't get found out I'll add some suitable effects, title it "Ikebekuro Night Right Flying With Special Effects", and upload it. It's perfect!

——Fufufu...I wonder what tags would be good to use. Since I'm pretending its special effects, maybe I should put it in the Niconico Technology Section tag...

——Or maybe the Strange Technique tag.

——I could even put a Peter Pan picture book on the Niconico Market

——It's perfect. It's the perfect plan!

Even as she remembered the many times she had over-confidently calculated, she straddled the bike brimming with confidence but—

"Yo." From the side she heard a familiar voice.

——.....  
With awful chills running up and down her spine, Celty slowly turned to face the direction the voice came from.

“What are you planning, attaching a video camera to your bike like that? Have you started some sort of street view type part time job?”

Almost symmetric with Celty’s black back was a large white bike. Of course, naturally, the man straddling it was a member of the motorcycle police. Specifically, a member of the Police Headquarters Traffic Riot Squad, named Kuzuhara Kinnosuke.

Her whole body stiffening with creak, Celty reached her shadows forward and pushed the camera’s light button. Then, facing her natural enemy in the motorcycle police, she slowly showed him her smartphone screen.

“...It’s a headlight.”

“.....”

“.....”

Inside Celty’s mind, she was forcing the most insincere smile ever—

“...You’re not going to stick to that, are you?”

“...Yes.”

The next instant, the black bike shot away into the dark like a rabbit.

♂ ♀

### *Shinra’s Apartment*

“Wow, what an amazing video~! It’s got a sense of tension to it.” Kishitani Shinra raised his voice in admiration as he watched the output from the handy cam on the television.

It was taken from the point of view from a bike being chased by the motorcycle police riot squad in all the directions, the town of Ikebukuro flying by and disappearing at great speed.

“The only problem is that you can’t really tell what’s going on and if you stare at it too much it feels like you’re drunk. But still, if you add some effects you’ll definitely get some MyList bookmarks.”

“Whatever. . .Ah, I’ve had enough of this town. . .” Celty was completely finished after two hours of running away from the police, and she punched her words into her smartphone while collapsing face down on the sofa.

“Worst of all. . .I can’t even smile while watching that video. . .” And so, Celty’s wonderful plan was smashed into smithereens, and the movie was shelved without ever being shown——

But there was one thing she still didn’t know.

At one point during the eventful chase, a friend of Karisawa’s rival, Blizzard la Blizzadia, had happened to record and uploaded it to Niconico Douga.

With the simple title of 【Headless Rider VS Motorcycle Police】 it had already reached #7 in the site wide rankings of all categories.

When she did become aware that she had unwittingly assisted the enemy, she became despondent and her spirit withered—

But that's a story for another time.

To be continued in Nicococo!!x4

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*translated by soltarination*

# Nicococo!!x4



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DURARARA!! NICONICO SPECIAL EDITION PART 4: NICOCOCO!!x4



Due to some strange circumstances, Ikebukuro's strangest phenomenon, Celty Sturluson, had been dragged into Karisawa and her rival's "Friend Video Showdown."

A friend of Karisawa's singing rival, Blizzard la Blizzadia, recorded a video of Celty escaping from the motorcycle police and uploaded it. It had become an instant hit in the rankings.

Now that she aware that she had put herself at such a disadvantage, Celty had to figure out a course of action to respond but what——

Those answers, she herself didn't even know.

*A certain place on Kawagoe-Kaido - Shinra's Apartment*

"I'm home~." Returning in the middle of the night from his work as a back alley doctor, Kishitani Shinra stepped into an apartment filled with a dark atmosphere.

"Uwah? What the hell? What's going on!?"

Well, it couldn't really be called an "atmosphere." It was actually Celty's shadows, which spread out across the room like smoke, shutting out the light from the florescent lamps and creating a very dark space.

"A-ah. . .w-welcome back, Shinra." Pushing her way through the gloom, Celty unsteadily emerged from the room.

"What's wrong, Celty!? Are you feeling sick!?" As Shinra hastened over in concern, Celty feebly typed out a response.

"No. . .I was just running myself down in various ways thinking about the video. . ."

After finally calming Celty down, she finally told Shinra what was going on. It seemed like the video that had been taken of her fleeing the motorcycle police and uploaded to Niconico Douga continued to spread far and wide over the social media networks, and thus the number of views and number of MyList bookmarks only continued to increase.

"Ugh. . .I've been beside myself with worry about what Karisawa would say if I don't win this. . .And in the end I did what I must not do. . ."

"What you must not do?"

"J-just now, I took this video. . ."

"?"

Taking the handy cam Celty surrendered, Shinra hooked it up to the computer and played it back.

There, reflected on the screen, was a strange image. The footage was taken in a dark park, sometime after the sun had gone down. The Sunshine Building could be seen far away in the background so it was probably somewhere in the vicinity of Ikebukuro. The image naturally panned over to the swing set, and there some dark shadows began to appear.

"....."

The shadows slowly took human shape, changing into the form of a young woman hidden by a broad-brimmed hat. Then, after giving a few creaky swings on the swing set, the shape slowly faded away again.

As Shinra stared at the images, he noticed that the shadows which made up the young woman's form extended out along on the ground beyond the frame in the direction of the person filming.

"...Are those, your shadows?" As soon as Shinra pointed that out, Celty jerked in surprise. Then she raised her hands to cover what would have been her face on a normal human, and dropped off the couch onto the carpet, where she began to roll around.

"Uwaaaaah! Shinra, I'm the worst! No matter how desperate I am, to fake a supernatural phenomenon and record it with the intention of uploading it to Niconico is just...!"

"Calm down, Celty. Hmm, well. While it's true it's fake, aren't Celty's shadows a much greater supernatural phenomenon than an image that, at a glance, appears to be that of a ghost? In that sense, it's not a lie at all, but rather similar to those people who take videos of themselves dancing..."

"I'm done for! If this video leaks out and people find out it's a fake, everyone's going to blame me and I'm going to have to do a live broadcast apology for sure aaaaaaaah!!"

"Celty, relax, Celty." But she continued to roll around and type out deranged ranting on her smartphone.

"But even so, people are going to misunderstand and think I'm acting like a big shot, or making a joke out of it all by taking on a challenging attitude and being unsociable and then they'll all get mad, and afterwards I'll forget to turn off the mic and have some sort of embarrassing conversation with you and aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaagh I'm finished Shinra!"

"Uuuuum, I'm going to address these in order, but I have a hunch that if you receive a lot of comments that say "You staged this" on Niconico, it has a different meaning there?\*" Moreover, Celty, you can't talk so how would you give live apology? Would you put continue apologizing by putting a banner in the contributor comments? Also, even if you forget to switch off the mic after the live broadcast, won't they only hear my voice?" After Shinra had said all that, he took a deep breath, then, with serious eyes, opened his mouth again.

"Well, actually, I'm interested in the contents of that embarrassing conversation we would have, so won't you tell me~?"

"Eh, that's, j-just stuff we normally talk, but that would be embarrassing for others to overhear."

"Ah, it's no use. Usually you would have already given me a blow to the kidney by now, so getting a normal response is rather weird coming from you." Patting Celty's shaking shoulders, Shinra tried to cheer her up.

"Well, don't worry about it. Even if that happens, I'll still support you, Celty."

"But I've already troubled you so much..."

---

\* The word used here can mean both performing in one's own work and being a fake.

"It's fine! If it's for you, I would do whatever it takes to give you all your playback and MyList numbers! Because I will be the only one dirtying my hands, all I ask from you, Celty, is that you wash away my dirty heart with the power of love! Oh, isn't what I just said the perfect strategy!?"

"Uuuh."

"Come now, Celty, let's make a Niconico channel for just the two of us and bring the R-18 tag to life!"

"Wait, that's a bit. . ." Giving it only a couple seconds of thought, Celty delivered a swift counterpunch to Shinra, who had attempted to dive towards her.

*Several Minutes Later—*

"Thanks, Shinra. Thanks to you, I've calmed down."

"Nope...don't mention it...After all it's Celty...so I had to..." Compared to Celty's calm demeanor, Shinra was in a cold sweat as he gave a weak thumbs up.

"A-are you ok? I'm sorry, I was flustered so I didn't moderate. . ."

"I'm fine! It's true it hurt where you hit me, but it's just living proof that you touched me!"

"Are you sure you're ok? Especially your head. . ."

"Of course! On the contrary, my head is actually quite clear, all thanks to such a good punch I think!" Shinra nodded his head with a bright smile, before turning his eyes to the laptop screen. While looking at the playback of the submitted Niconico video

"Motorcycle Police VS Headless Rider," he continued to speak to Celty.

"The person who shot and uploaded this video, knew Karisawa-san's rival...uuuh..."

"Blizzard la Blizzadia."

"Right, this person is a friend of hers, right?"

"That's what I understand. . ."

Giving the words on Celty's smartphone a sidelong glance, Shinra adjusted the slider on the video and stopped it at a certain point.

"Look, here, during Shooter's wild escape through the town...—just for a second, you turn in the direction of the camera."

"Ah, you're right."

"In other words...it seems to me that the camera you mounted where Shooter's headlight would be would have caught this moment in question and you should be able to see the person who took this video."

"...! I see!" Celty understood where Shinra was going, but almost immediately thought of a question and twisted her neck without a head.

"So, even if we figure out who he is, what do we do then?"

"Well, if you identify who it is, you may be able to figure out who Blizzard-what's-their-name is. From there, you can intervene and convince them to stop this worthless video competition. The important thing is that you get Karisawa and her rival to reconcile!"

"Oh, I get it! . . . But I don't think it will go that smoothly. . ."

Shinra answered Celty's uneasy words as he checked the video she had taken previously.

"It'll be fine. It's cheap of the other side to take video of my Celty unaware, so if it comes down to it we can start the conversation there."

"Hey, you, don't go around saying 'my Celty' so nonchalantly."

"Ooh, forget that, I found the person who took the video!" Shinra announced in an unnecessarily loud voice as he pointed a finger at the screen.

"Look, that kid there. . . Huh? I've seen them somewhere before. . ."

"Let me see. . . ? AH!?" Reflected on the screen was a young boy, turned towards the smartphone camera mounted on the bike. His face was one Celty recognized.

"Isn't that. . . Kuronuma Aoba!"

"... Ah that kid who came to our place once before." A strange, cold light glittered in Shinra's eyes.

"To take secret video of Celty while she's frightened and expose her to public humiliation, all the while saying he wants to be friends... Maybe I should have cut his carotid artery after all at that time...?"

"Don't say such dangerous things!" But even as she continued to calm Shinra down, she couldn't help but think herself.

——But, that really is Aoba-kun.

——So assuming they're friends... does that mean Blizzard la Blizzadia is a Blue Square?

——No, Blizzard la Blizzadia is a very feminine name.

——Which reminds me, I haven't really watched her videos.

As that occurred to her, Celty searched the tags on Niconico and began to watch the masked rival of Karisawa Erika's "Eternal de Charmant" as she began to sing.

——.....

——This... she's obviously very good at singing and dancing.

——But...

On screen was a young woman with a charming style, wearing a mask and dancing while she sang a song. It wasn't the idol kind of dance, but one that gave the impression that it came from an act of a dark musical.

——Somehow, I get the feeling I've seen this somewhere before...

At that moment, Shinra opened his mouth from where he had been peering over her shoulder.

"Huh, is that..."

"Do you know her Shinra?"

"Yeah. You know her, too, Celty." Rather readily, Shinra spoke the name of the girl on screen.

"That's Izaya's younger sister, Kururi-chan."

*The Next Day - A Certain Parking Lot in Ikebukuro*

“...Good grief, seriously, just because you quarreled with someone that doesn’t mean you should go dragging others into it.” Kadota Kyouhei said as he let out a sigh, while Karisawa and Kururi, who were standing in front of him, bowed their heads despondently.

“Ehehe...Sorry, Dotachin.”

“...Apology (I apologize)...”

The two had been called out by Kadota, since he was an acquaintance of both, to make a truce to end the quarrel Celty had been caught up in.

Actually, once Celty learned the truth, she had asked Kadota to act as a go-between for the two, and had schemed to end the video competition.”

“Sorry, Kururi-chan. I was being childish.”

“...Same (I’m sorry too)...”

Thus, the two joined hands, and mutually decided to do a live broadcast collaboration event on Niconico.

And, more importantly, Celty was released from her duty as a video creator.



*Several Days Later - Shinra’s Apartment*

“Hey, the usual Niconico Live Broadcast is starting~.”

At Shinra’s call, Celty moved herself in front of the computer.

There, on the Niconico Broadcast screen, seated around a strangely elaborate table and all wearing masks, were Karisawa and the Orihara twins.

【“O~KAY, I’m Eternal de Charmant!”

“.....”

“I’ll be speaking for my older sister who’s not very good at it! Hello~! I’m Blizzard La Blizzadia’s younger sister, Homura-chan!” 】

“Mairu’s stage name is very simple compared to the other two. . .”

Celty typed out to Shinra as she watched the broadcast.

“But, I was also very careless...I remember now that the other day when I met them, I mentioned that I had to make a video. . .”

“I read the ‘Blizzard la Blizzadia’ entry in Niconico Pedia and it was really written there that she ‘has a lot of extreme dances, and in the past she made a video with her sister that got deleted.’”

“Really, there’s a limit to how much trouble you can cause.” Still, now that she was relieved of the pressure of having to make her own video, Celty could watch the broadcast with relief.

"But, how should I say this. . .I'm really surprised that such a quiet and taciturn child, whose voice I can barely hear most of the time, can sing and dance like that."

"Kururi-chan becomes very talkative and lascivious on the internet." As Shinra nodded his head and hummed thoughtfully, Celty continued to speak.

"Well, on places like Niconico Douga and such, you can reveal a side of yourself that you usually don't show the world. Sometimes the self we reveal in videos is our ideal dream self, you know."

"Oh I see."

"But there are also lots of young, passionate fans. So for popular singers and dancers, if they want be themselves and live normally, they probably have to maintain a certain distance with their fans."

"What are you getting at?" Shinra laughed as he answered Celty's question.

"I was just thinking that you work as a courier for the underworld, and keep a distance from other people because you can't be the same as them, but I don't want you to be a video idol, just *my* idol."

Celty's shoulders went up and down, as if she had just taken a deep breath, and then her fingers slid across her tablet.

"Those should be my words, Mr. Back Alley Doctor." The two of them rubbed their shoulders together, and a good atmosphere settled between them——

But the group of masked girls on screen destroyed that atmosphere with what they said next.

【"So, uuuuuuuuh, today, to celebrate our reconciliation, the three of us decided to do a live Let's Play."

"....."

"Yup! So I brought a game that almost nobody else knows about!" 】

The masked Mairu held up a CD. Written in magic marker on the front was the title "Danger, Izaya's Castle [rest omitted]".

【"This is a game our older brother made a long time ago! So today, we're going to do a Let's Play of it!" 】

——That's...

As she screamed loudly in her mind, Celty leaned forward and began pounding words into the comment section, vigorously clicking the submit button over and over again.

**"DON'T PLAY THAT GAME!"**

To other people, such words were really ambiguous but——For the first time her life, she desperately sent messages to the Niconico broadcast, and they were filled with nothing but that memorable comment.

This is a story about comments.  
A story about twisted comments.

♂ ♀

After a several such ordinary events——  
Celty and Shinra disappeared from Ikebukuro for a while in order to take a trip all around Japan.  
At the end of the long, long journey half a year later, how will Celty have changed, or possibly not changed? She herself does not even know the answer to that.  
Also, when they come back half a year later, just what are they coming back to?  
  
Will the Headless Rider be able to continue smiling in her heart from now on or perhaps not——?  
For those answers, you must wait a little longer.

Nicococo!! The End

To be continued in Durarara!!SH

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*translated by soltarination*